### Griffmen Get New Southpaw Twirler---February Should Witness Trading

# FEBRUARY MEETINGS OF BIG SHOW OUGHT TO HAVE EXCITEMENT

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

The coming meetings of the two big leagues in New York toward the end of February should see more trades than have occurred in baseball in many moons. It is doubtful if the many Federal League players will have found their 1916 berths by that time and places will have to be dug up for them. This will make many players now on big league rosters unnecessary and will stimulate trading. Many, unable to be cared for in the two major circuits, will slide back to the minors. Thus, with major league owners and managers, there will be a large attendance of minor league managers intent on getting some of the crumbs from the big fellows' table.

The February meetings will be scheduled for the metropolis, both the American and National Leagues attending. This will admit of better teamwork between the two circuits and also give both far more publicity than either would obtain if the meetings were staged in Chicago and New York at the same time. In New York the magnates will have every opportunity of having their doings and their vaporings spread abroad on the printed page. In the past this has been an excellent advantage for both big leagues, and again it will aid in boosting the game. Easeball is in sore straits now. The fans have turned away their faces, peeved at the doings of the past two years. They need to be recalled and so the magnates will make their first strike by staging both big meetings in New York.

#### SINCLAIR LAUGHS AT REPORTS.

last year with being 'bushers,' but watch the scramble for these 'bushers' when the word goes out. Especially in when the word goes out. Especially in midseason last year by Charlie Somer-New York were we laughed at, but now may be found at the head of the Toron

Fhil Ball, who is the new head of the St. Louis Browns, is a minority stockholder. Otto Stifel, the brewer, owns the controlling interest in the club, but does ot care to take a prominent part in

year with his makeshift team, and with players like Weilman, Sister, Pratt, and Shotton added to Ernie Johnson, Davenmanage the Fargo club in the Northmert Plank, Deal, and the rest of our ern League next year. port, Plank, Deal, and the rest of our boys, he will walk home with that pen-

"We came into baseball to give St. Louis a winner. We missed out last year by so small a fraction that it can't be put in three figures, but Jones will being the world's series games here next

The future of Branch Rickey, the Sun-ay school manager of the Browns for he past two seasons, is a guess. One the past two seasons, is a guess. One rumor has Ban Johnson taking care of him. Another has him retiring from the national game. The new owners of the club will examine his contract. If it runs through 1916, he may be paid off in full and allowed to go his own sweet way. If it is not ironclad, he may lose

world's champion Chicago White Sox. will be given full power to do as he will be given full power to do as he wishes in St. Louis next season, and those who know him say that this means that the Browns will be in the running for the flag from the very betripping. Jones had, a rendescript ship less spring Cobb.

nati Reds. Hedges was a manufacturer of buggies in Cincinnati before becoming a baseball mogul, and it is thought that he wants to return to the city on the

Rhine.

The Fleischmanns are said to be willing to get out of baseball, and that fledges may purchase their interests. With Hedges will be John E. Brucc, who owned some stock in the Browns until the present peace negotiations. Ediction of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnational by the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnational by the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnational by the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnational by the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnational by the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnational by the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh, was offered the Cincinnation of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh of the Federal League owner in Pittsburgh owner in Pittsburgh owner in Pittsburgh owner in Pittsburg for a chance to get Somers' interests in the Cleveland club. What luck he will have in the Forest City remains to be But there is a chance for an out- next spring. in Cincinnati, and Hedges is going after it.

Although the Baltimore fans are worrying considerably about the future of their city in baseball, it is generally thought the Jersey City franchise in the International League will be transferred to the home of Jack Dunn. It is unlikely that Dunn will have the ciub, remaining in Richmond, but Baltimoreans should have some baseball next summer. have some baseball next summer, just the same. Something must be done with those Federal leaguers not protected by iron-clad contracts and protected by iron-clad contracts and the larger minor leagues will probably get most of them. Baltimore's Federal League club had some good players in its line-up, and, with some more men, ought to have a team worth supporting. There is little or no chance of any big league club's being planted in the Monumental city, but a strong minor league organization ought to make good, now that city, but a strong minor league organization ought to make good, now that the Feds and their clamor about being a big league have passed away. When the best of the Feds take their places in the big show, some veterans must drop back. Most of the Feds will hardly be able to stay as high as Class AA and some will be fortunate to stick in Class A manks. With the incoming Feds, many big league veterans will fall back to the Class AA clubs overrowding them. Therefore, the International League, the American Association and the Pacific Coast League right to have some good players. ought to have some good players to seed at their heads before spring comes. It will be wholly up to the Pattimore megnates and manager whether or not the Monumental City has a strong team in the International League. tional League.

George Stallings, for the past three scasons manager of the Boston Brayes, may be found in the International League next summer. He is angling for a controlling interest in the Newark club in the Barrow circuit, and if he succeeds in his purpose he will manage his own club.

Harry Sinclair, the money man behind the Feds, laughs at reports that the American and National leagues will not take back any Federal League players.

"All the leagues," he says, "kidded us league, the has managed both the Newark and the Buffalo clubs in that circuit with great success. circuit with great success.

Joe Birmingham, who was dropped it both the Giantz and the Yankees cannot get enough stars."

Thil Ball, who is the new head of the

Charlie Smith, once a twirler with the Nationals, later going to the Cubs. has been given his unconditional release by San Francisco.

baseball, not having the necessary time.
Ball is popular in the Mound City, and expects to have a successful year in 1916. Stifel looks forward to a great season for the Browns.

"The fans can expect to see the pennant at Sportsman's Park next season." says the brewer happily. "Fielder Jones gave them all a great run last year with his makeshift team, and with

he national game. The heavy he national game. The heavy he national game. The heavy he club will examine his contract. If it uns through 1916, he may be paid off in may go to Cleveland next season. There is no place for him in St. Louis, now that the Browns and Sloufeds have merged. He has been offered to the Indians for nothing.

running for the flag from the very beginning. Jones had a nondescript club last year, yet he was merely nosed out for the Federal League championship. With the amaigamated Browns, he should meet with far better luck in 1916.

Now that he has quit the American League, it is said that Col. Bob Hedges may become the owner of the Cincinnati Reds. Hedges was a manufacturer line the matter. Cobb has written to the middle of August for the flag of the following start and by the niddle of August for the flag of t Tuthill saying that he will attempt to break all his own records in 1916. All big leaguers please take notice.

Though the dates have yet to be officially announced, the Griffmen will play two games in Richmond

### Thomas to Shift From Cubs to Toledo Outfit

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.-Charlie Thomas, resident of the Chicago Cubs, appeared likely today to transfer his baseball activities to Toledo. When he is dis-possessed of the Bruins by Charles Weeghman. Thomas plans to secure control of the Cleveland American sociation club and transfer it to Toledo, it was reported.

Thirty players will make the spring training trip of the amalgamated Cub-Whale teams, Charles Weeghman said today. He expects to weed out a bunch of the players he has on hand.

### Hobey Baker Refuses to

CLEVELAND, Dec. 28.-Hobey Baker, former Princeton athletic star, is in great demand this season. Hobey is the greatest bockey player in the amateur ranks, and his playing is attracting the attention of coaches of professional teams from far and near. Hobey is a member of the St. Nicholas team, and probably will remain there for some time, as only last week he refused an offer of \$2.500 to finish the season with a pro, team. Art Ross made the offer

### Les Darcy Will Visit This Country in March

SYDNEY, New South Wales, Dec. 28 Les Darcy, the Australian middleweight, who stopped Eddie McGoorty the Barrow circuit, and if he subceeds in his purpose he will manage his
own club.
Stallings had fair luck in 1913, and
raced away to great glory in 1914 when
his Braves won the world's title in four
straight rames from the hitherto inwincible Mackinen. His methods were
vincible Mackinen. His method by Miss Williams. Miss Williams. Obesio, Miss Williams. Obesio, Miss Smith and Mrs. Greenwood
will play on the Ingram girls will be captained by
Miss Williams. Miss Williams. Desio, Miss Smith and Mrs. Greenwood
will play on the Ingram learn. Shunk.

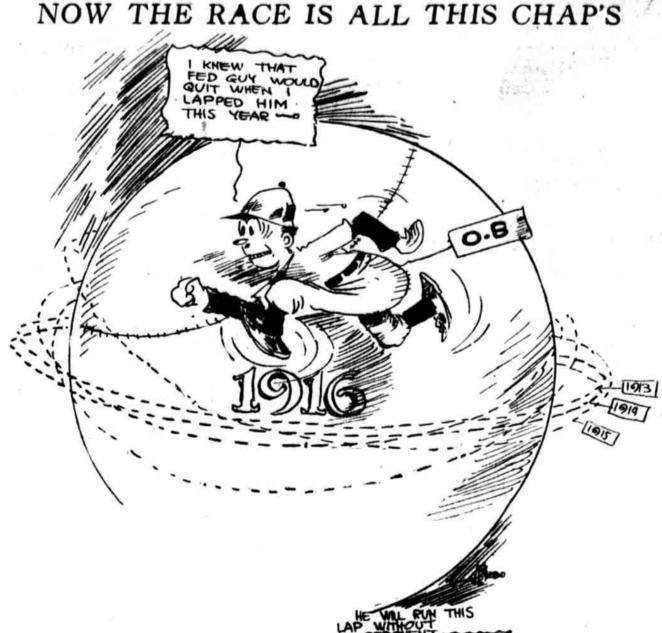
Bartor 'Y' and expect to
make a fine showing akainst the men.
Ass year the girls carned by
the work on the alley.

The linguage after the "Y" and seeking
matches with the best men in his class
the Williams of the work on the alley.

The last year the girls of the work on the alley.

The make a fine showing akainst the men.

Ass year the n eight rounds here yesterday, will visit



### VIRGINIA LEAGUER GRABBED BY GRIFF

Humphreys, Southpaw Twirler From Norfolk, Will Try For Berth Here.

fore calling it a day's work.
"I never put on much weight," laughed Eddie, talking about his training siunt.

"but it always comes where it can be men wanted by Ne seen easiest. And when the Old Fox a staggering price. takes one peek at me at camp, he always says. Ten times around the track for you. I'm going to escape that drudgery this spring by getting into shape before we hit camp.' Foster has taken on less than ten extra pounds since the end of the 1915 season, and so he won't have to hustle very hard between now and the call

Joe Engel, fresh from Joe Cantillon's hunting camp at Hickman. Ky., is in town for the holidays. Immediately fol-lowing the close of the American Association season. Engel accompanied his boss to Hickman, and has been hunting and fishing there ever since. Engel will twirl for Minneapolis again next summer, hoping to improve sufficiently to receive another trial in the big show.

Billy Martin, formerly Georgetown's crack shortstop, has signed with the New York Giants, and will report to Mc-Graw at Marlin. Tex. Martin, who is a bit over weight, will begin getting himself into condition at the Georgetown gym next week, and hopes to be ready to jump right into the line-up when the practice season starts.

until the formal transfer of the Cubs has been made. This is expected to take place in a day or so. Even then some difficulties will be found in obtaining waivers from every National League club before the players can take their American League jobs.

Twelve Bowlers Trv

### Cleveland Will Have Only One Team in 1916

CLEVELAND, Dec. 28 .- Only one ball club will play here next season. Ban B. Johnson has ordered the American Association to vacate the territory and the Spiders, handled so well last year by Jack Knight, will be transferred to Toledo. It is understood that the bankers' committee in charge of Charlie Somer's affairs has placed a price of \$150,000 on the Tolego franchise, park and players.

### Play Professional Hockey Wrenn Will Drop Helm Of Tennis Management

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.-Robert D Wrenn, president of the United States National Law Tennis Association, announces publicly his retirement from nounces publicly his retirement from that office, owing to a press of outside business. However, he will retain in-terest in the association, and offers his services whenever they are required. George T. Adee or Julian S. Myrick, of the West Side Tennis Club, may succeed

### Ingram Girls to Bowl Boys On New Year Day

The Ingram Girls will bowl the Y. M. C. A. team at the New Year Day reception at the "Y" and expect to

### "Where's My Job?"

BUFFALO, Dec. 28.—John Gan-zel has joined the field asking "Where's my job?" John leaped from the Rochester (Interna-tional League) club last summer to become manager of the Brooklyn Federals. The Brooklyn franchise departs with baseball peace, and John is on the anxious seat.

# YANKEES PLANNING

to the battle for the stars of the Federal League, and if any other club gets the men wanted by New York it will be at

into negotiations with Charley Weeghfor Jimmy Archer, the star catcher Bob Fisher, the shortstop, and Zwilling and Flack, the outfielders of the Whales. eH also has communicated with Ed Gwinner, of the Pittsburgh Rebels, asking that a price be set upon Frank Allen and Baron Knetzer, once with the Brooklyn Superbs. These deals, along with those pendinf for Lee Ma-gee and J. Franklin Baker, if carried through, will give the Yankees a team that may make it more than interesting for the rival clubs.

Weeghan is prevented from making an immediate decision in the matter of letting these players go to the Yankees until the formal transfer of the Cubs

Twelve bowlers will compete tonight alley duckpin merchandise tournament, another twelve will roll tomorrow and sixteen will roll Thursday, the prizes consisting entirely of merchandise.

Touight's competitors are C. C. Hargett, W. Brown, W. Beethoven Gadsby, C. F. Nelson, John Brennen, W. Knett, S. Ratto, C. W. Flanders, A. B. Graham, and R. Panholzer Callis. Wednesday, T. Caruso, McLeod, Stock G. Bohnert, C. S. Crague, H. D. Turner, G. T. Gilleland, R. Michael Polock, J. Grack, S. J. Horar, and A. S. Hopkins. Thursday, V. Riston, McCenny, Arndorff, P. Hungerford, F. S. Carroll, Sears, J. J. Mahoney, Adams Murdock, J. Chaplin, D. F. Baines, Montano, Roach Russo, W. Oliver, C. Claridge, and B. Helland. alley duckpin merchandise tournament.

### Expect to See Bout.

GARY. Ind., Dec. 28.-The fight contingent here received assurances today that the Kneckout Brown-Ever Hammer bout, scheduled for Wednesday night will not be called off by the governor.
The executive's order was interpreted as barring 'prize fights," but permitting "boxing bouts."

### **CELECT CATAWBA** 50c Bot. \$2 Gal. -something exceptionally

John T. Crowley Established 1887. 831 14th St. Phone Main 3644. 831 14th St. Deliveries up to 10:30 P.M.

## BIG BASEBALL YEAR COMING, SAYS TENER

National League Leader Looks Larger Attendances.

The acquisition of Sam Agnew by the Red Sox has pleased Providence fans, who now look to have Bill Carrigan return Pat Haley to the Clamdiggers. Haley caught in fine style the Nationals' training camp and have the Old Fox give him the "double O."

Agnew in line, he will drop back to the minors.

SCHAP FUR BANNED

Tendered to join the Red Sox and, with Agnew in line, he will drop back to the minors.

SCHAP FUR BANNED

Tendered to join the Red Sox and, with Agnew in line, he will drop back to the first half of the Virginia League season last year." explains Manager Griffith, "but fell off later. He may have been overworked, for all Anyway. Minneapolis obtained him off

Flack, Zwilling, and Fisher, little or no trouble in the discovered in the discovered half or no trouble in the Eddie Foster, the Griffmen's crack little infielder, has begun "prepping" for the coming campaign on the diamond. Yesterday afternoon he and Mike Martin, the team's trainer, opened hostilities in the handball court at the Y. M. C. A. the wee major leaguer being winded in about five minutes. However, he kept right at the task for half an hour before calling it a day's work.

would be little or no trouble in the distribution of the Federal League players. They were all declared eligible, and the federal League will assume responsibility for their contracts. The adjustment of their salaries will be a question for the clubs themselves to decide. The question as to whether the Federal league players will be contenders for the stars of the Federal League players. would be little or no trouble in the dis first asking waivers from the other clubs will be decided by the National commission at Cincinnati on January

### The affable Cap. Huston has entered Question of Amateurism Is Still Being Argued

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.-The amateur athlete will know just why he is an amateur and what he must do to preserve his standing as a simon-pure, if the nineteen governing bodies meeting here today overcome the disparity of opinion and adopt a code before them. The governing organizations represent nineteen branches of sport and are gathered here at the invitation of the Inter-collegiate Association of Amateur Athletics of America. Every angle of professionalism is expected to be taken up in its contrast to amateurism in to-day's meeting. The definition of ama-teurs, a lengthy document, will be argued again today.

### Punish English Players For "Framing" Big Game

LONDON, Dec. 28 .-- A sensation has

been caused in football circles in the Conclusions in Roll-Off North of England by a report Issued by the Commission of the English Football Association on the result of n the first roll-off of the Commercial the game between Liverpool and Manchester United, which was decided last April. The report shows that the grame was prearranged between the players for the purpose of betting and winning money. The committee found it proven that sums of money had changed hands on the result of the game and that the players profited considerably.

The Football Association has permanently supended four Liverpool The Football Association has per-manently suspended four Liverpool players—Sheldon, Purcell, Miller, and Fairfoul—and three Manchester United professionals—A. Turnbull, Whalley, and West—from taking part in play-ing football or football management, and they are also barred from entering any football ground in England in future

### Marvel Still Unknown.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 .- The "masked marvel" is still as mysterious as ever. He had promised to unmask if he threw Alexander Abers in the international wrestling tourament last night. The two wrestled for two hours and forty minutes to a draw.

### DANCING

MR AND MRS HARTLEY, formerly MISS COULTER, 1202 O st. N. W.; all dancing taught: private lessons, 75c. Phone N. 184. MRS. COBB. 160 Eye St. N. W. Phone Main 2542. Lessons in day or evenin Assembly Dances Every Monday Evening. PROF. WYNDHAM, 816 12th 8t. N. W All dances. Class. 50c. Private any hour.

NICHOLAS 1012 H ST. N. W. Phone dances daily 10 a. in. to 11 p. m. Clust dances Tues. & Fri. Gent's 56c ladies free. MILLER'S, BELASCO THEA ER: M 5878. Up-to-the-Minute Dances. In-structive, music and hall furnished organised classes. Ballroom and interpretative dances.

#### the title in 1892 and was defeated by Tommy Ryan. Joe Wolcott was ac-claimed the champion in 1894 and held it till he lost to Dixie Kid on a foul. Both claimed the championship and Honey Melody made it worse by winning from Wolcott in 1906. Mike Twin Sullivan settled Mellody's hash in 1907 and claimed the title until he grew too heavy in 1910. Along came Jimmy Clabby, with a verdict over Dixie Kid, and Rube Ferns and Ray Bronson both entered claims to the honors. Up to 1913 the title was not given to any one boxer. Bronson that year posted a forfeit to defend the honors. Packy McFarland insisted he was a lightweight and Mike Gibbons admitted he was too heavy. Last year Bronson, claimant

weights have won from Wells, leaving no better claimant than Jimmy Duffy, of Lockport, N. Y. Ted Lewis dropped him with a single punch, seizing whatever claim Duffy had. Ritchie has always fought as a lightweight. Tonight he goes out of his class. It is doubtful if the winner will be acclaimed the champion, but he has a perfect right to the honors among the few in the class. Getting back once more to the coming big league campaigns, two good

of the title, lost to Matt Wells in Australia. Since then several light-

TODAY'S SPORTORIAL By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

The outlook for major league baseball in 1916 is most rosy. The great national game is built on a foundation of plain American sentiment

and it would appear as if this same old sentiment might have a chance oc

return. For the past two years too much real "inside stuff" has been uncovered to the gaze of the public, somewhat after the fashion of inviting the public to go behind the scenes of a Belasco play. The game was founded on sentiment and had its best days through sheer sentiment. Until the fans are given a maximum of baseball and a minimum of contract

squabbles, the game will be suffering from biliousness, but there seems to be a chance that the dollars will fade away from the public prints and the

baseball will replace them. For two years lawyers and judges have seen

their names on every sport page in the land. They may not have liked it,

but the fans were even less satisfied. The fan wanted baseball and re-

ceived legal fights. The fans wanted baseball and received injunctions. The fans wanted baseball and received lengthy arguments filled with legal terms. But now, with 1916 about to begin, the outlook is for more

baseball and less legal fighting. The public is quick to forget and here's hoping that it will speedily forget all the troubles of the past two years. Here's hoping that the fans will rally to the great national game, certain that they will see more real baseball played by energetic, earnest players

than they have since the lawyers got mixed up in the deal. The fans have

failed to support baseball in 1914 and 1915 because they were merely bored with the dope handed them. They wanted baseball and did not get it. But the chances are they'll get it in 1916.

Tonight Ted Lewis, of England, meets Willie Ritchie, of California, in a welterweight bout in New York. It is a good sign when the light-

weights begin edging over into the welterweight class, and no two better men could meet in the ring than Lewis and Ritchie. This title has aroused

more argument than any other in the history of the ring, but when all squabbles are pursued to the dire end, it would appear as if Lewis had the best claim to the championship. When Paddy Duffy retired undefeated back in the '80's, he started the trouble. Mysterious Billy Smith claimed

races should be witnessed. At least three clubs in Ban Johnson's circuit are certain to be in the hunt, Boston, Chicago, and Detroit. St. Louis, strengthened by the men from Fielder Jones' Federal League club, may also horn into the argument. Washington, always a tough proposition. may be in the scrap, if the youngsters carry out their promises of 1915. New York, if it obtains a couple of pitchers, a catcher, and a hitting infielder, may make trouble for all the others. Only Cleveland and Phila-For Better Playing and delphia seem doomed. In the National League it would seem to be a wide open thing. The Phillies and Braves carry the odds, but close behind them come the Dodgers and Cubs. The Cubs will have some of the best Federal Leaguers, and the Giants may also benefit in the same way. Cincinnati was not a weak team last summer and neither was Pittsburgh. It is difficult to find a tailender at this writing in the older organization. Oh,

well-meybe it will be worth living through next summer, after all.

It is estimated in Pittsburgh that the Pirates will cost Barney Drey fuss \$20,000 less in 1916 than it did in 1915. This gain is said to come from pruning the salary list, chopping down a bunch of men who did not deliver the real goods last season. In 1909 Pittsburgh won the National League title and then trimmed the Tigers for the world's championship. That year the players got \$44,000 less than the Pirates of 1915 received. This same story holds true in every major league club in the country, too. Better teams drew less money five years ago. But the future spells cutting of expenses and the first cutting will come in players' salaries. Many players drawing from \$5,000 to \$7,000 will be offered contracts calling for from \$3,000 to \$4,000 and, unless they sign, they will return to the farm, the coal wagon or the elevator. Since the Federal League entered the field, the major leagues have been squeezed against the wall. Now they plan to take revenge.

### Boston Clubmen Escape When Fire Menaces Them

BOSTON, Dec. 28.-Fire starting in the locker room of the nine-story building of the Boston Athletic Association on Exeter street early today drove ten guests from their beds on the sevent! and eighth floors. The flames were confined to the three upper floors, but water caused heavy damage in the low-

### **AMUSEMENTS**

NATIONAL-ATSSHARP Mats. Wed. and Sat. 2 Sharp JULIA SANDERSON DONALD BRIAN JOSEPH CAWTHORN IN THE NEW "SYBIL"

Next Week Mate Wed and Sat. Seats Thur.
A. H. Wood's presents KICKIN
a Comedy Drama by Willard Mack
Won, night benefit of St. Thomas' parsonage

### Three Tuesday Afternoons at 4:30 BURTON HOLMES Jan. 11—Grand Canyon of Arizona Jan. 25-The Panama-Pacific Exposition Feb. 1—California and San Diego Ex-

ourse Sale (\$1.50, \$2 and \$2.50; next Monday

THURSDAY, 4:30 O'CLOCK First Concert 5th Washington Series **PHILHARMONIC** SOCIETY OF M. Y. ORCHESTRA

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Extra: Midnight Performance Friday Night, New Year Eve. Next Week-GIRL TRUST.

Roller Skating COLISET N Penna. Ave. at Ninth at. N. W. ly. 9:30 to 12:30-2:30 to 5-7:30 to 1

### AMUSEMENTS

BELASCO TONIGHT 8:20. MATINEE TOMORROW, 25e to \$1.50.

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B. F.KEITH'S Daily, 2:15 & 8:15 Sun., 3:00 & 8:15 Mats., 25c. Eve's, 25c to \$1.00. ERNEST W. EVANS & CO in "THE SOCIETY CIRCUS"

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